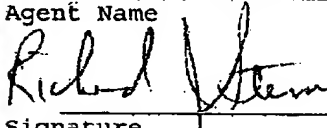


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Cottone et al.
Serial No. : 09/862,690
Filed : May 22, 2001
For : SELF-EXPANDING STENT
Examiner : Sarah K. Webb
Group Art Unit : 3731

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8	
I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below at the facsimile number 703-872-9306.	
Richard J. Sterner	35,372
Agent Name	PTO Reg. No.
	May 23, 2005
Signature	Date of Signature

Attention: Examiner Sarah K. Webb

Group Art Unit: 3731

Facsimile No.: 703-872-9306

No. of Pages: 19

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed
November 24, 2004 and to the Advisory Action mailed March 29,
2005. This communication also serves as the response required

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in connection with the RCE being submitted concurrently herewith. And, again, it is reflective of the issues discussed during the February 9, 2005 interview among the Examiner, her Supervisor, one of Applicants and the undersigned.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks following.

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MAY 23 2005

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants hereby request a two-month extension of time extending the time for response to the outstanding final Office Action from March 24, 2005 up to and including May 24, 2005. In their previous response, Applicants requested and paid for a one-month extension of time extending the time for response from February 24, 2005 up to and including March 24, 2005. Accordingly, the extension fee now required is \$900. The Commissioner is hereby authorize to charge this fee to Deposit Account No. 23-1703. Any other fee which may be due for any reason in connection with this Petition may likewise be charged.